

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 PA-03 PRS-01 INR-10 DPW-01

IO-12 OMB-01 RSR-01 /114 W
----- 027749

O R 251055 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3792

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL UDORN

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

SECDEF

USDAO SAIGON

DIRNSA FT GG MEADE MD

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC HAWAII

COMUSMACTHAI

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

DODSPECREP BANGKOK

DODSPECREP NKP

CHSPECACTS BANGKOK

7 ACCS KORAT

56 SOW NKP

432 TRW UDORN

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CDR JCRC NKP
8 TFW UBON
ARMA/ AIRA VTN LAOS
ARMA/ AIRA SVKT LAOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 3179

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; 13 AF ADVON, 432 TRW, 56 SOW AND 8 TFW FOR
DO/ DI; MACTHAI FOR J2 AND PAO

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, PFOR, LA
SUBJECT: LAO SITUATION REPORT - APRIL 25

REF: VIENTIANE 3154

BEGIN SUMMARY: MILITARY - ONLY TWO GROUND ACTIONS REPORTED DURING
PERIOD 23-24 APRIL, BOTH PROBES OF OUTPOSTS IN FAR NORTHWEST.
RLAF FLEW ONE AC-47 GUNSHIP AND NINE T-28 SORTIES, SEVEN OF WHICH
WERE IN RETALIATION FOR 22 APRIL LOSS OF PHOU VIENG NORTH OF PDJ.
LPF RADIO ANNOUNCED TWO- MONTH TOTAL OF 250 " NIBBLING" ATTACKS BY
VIENTIANE SIDE AGAINST " LIBERATED" ZONE; RLG SPOKESMAN REPORTED
431 ENEMY CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS DURING COMPARABLE PERIOD.
POLITICAL - LPF RADIO ANNOUNCED THAT PHOUMI WAS APPOINTED PLINI-
POTENTIARY REPRESENTATIVE AT VIENTIANE PEACE TALKS, IN COMPLI-
ANCE WITH PRIME MINISTER' S REQUEST. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY STANDING
COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED REQUEST TO BEGIN REGULAR SESSION ON MAY
11. END SUMMARY.

1. SECTION I - CEASEFIRE OBSERVANCE

A. MR I: ACTION CONTINUED IN FAR NORTHWEST, NORTHWEST OF XIENG
LOM, WHEN ENEMY TWICE PROBED OUTPOSTS NEAR BAN HOUAY LAO (SITE
1 47) ON 23 AND 24 APRIL (NO CASUALTIES). RLAF FLEW NO SORTIES.

B. MR II: NO GROUND ACTION REPORTED. NORTH OF PDJ, UNSUCCESSFUL
DEFENDERS OF PHOU VIENG (SITE 6), SOME 20 KM WEST/ NORTHWEST OF
BOUAM LONG, REGROUPED FARTHER NORTH AFTER 22 APRIL MAJOR ATTACK;
11 FRIENDS REMAIN MIA AND EQUIPMENT LOSSES INCLUDED 6 MORTARS,
ONE ROCKET LAUNCHER, PLUS 2 RADIOS. RLAF FLEW 7 T-28 SORTIES
ON 24 APRIL, ALL IN RETALIATION FOR LOSS OF PHOU VIENG. FIVE
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SORTIES STRUCK ENEMY TROOP LOCATIONS IN THAT AREA, WHILE TWO
OTHERS HIT TRUCK ON PDJ, WITH NO VISIBLE RESULTS.

C. MR III: NO GROUND ACTION REPORTED, EXCEPT THAT RLAF FLEW TWO
T-28 SORTIES ON 24 APRIL IN SUPPORT OF TROOPS IN CONTACT NORTH-
WEST OF THAKHEK (NO VISIBLE RESULTS).

D. MR IV: NO GROUND OR AIR ACTION REPORTED.

E. MR V: NO GROUND ACTION REPORTED. RLAF FLEW ONE AC-47 GUNSHIP SORTIE DURING NIGHT 23-24 APRIL, IN SUPPORT OF CLASH NORTH OF BORIKHANE REPORTED REFTTEL.

F. COUNT OF CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS: PATHET LAO NEWS AGENCY BROADCAST, IN ENGLISH, ON 24 APRIL, LAO PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY (LPLA) SUPREME COMMAND'S TWO-MONTH WRAP-UP OF CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS BY RLG AND USG. IN ADDITION TO ALLEGED 4,000 BOMBING/RECONNAISSANCE SORTIES, SUMMARY ALSO CITED 250 "NIBBLING ATTACKS" BY VIENTIANE FORCES. MEANWHILE, IN VIENTIANE, RLG DEFMIN ANNOUNCED 12 ADDITIONAL ENEMY CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, BRINGING ITS TOTAL AS OF MORNING 22 APRIL (I.E., IN TWO MONTHS SINCE CEASEFIRE) TO 431. (COMMENT: OUR COUNT OF GROUND CONTACTS INITIATED BY BOTH SIDES SHOWS TOTAL OF 664 INCIDENTS (104 MAJOR AND 560 MINOR) THROUGH 21 APRIL. END COMMENT)

2. SECTION II - POLITICAL SITUATION

A. ADDITIONAL LPF RADIO BROADCAST, APRIL 24, REGARDING PHOUMI VONGVICHIT'S TRAVEL TO VIENTIANE, STATED THAT, "IN COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCE SOUVANNA PHOUMA'S REQUEST," LPF CENTRAL COMMITTEE HAD APPOINTED PHOUMI AS "SPECIAL ADVISOR TO PATRIOTIC FORCES DELEGATION AND PLENIPOTENTIARY REPRESENTATIVE OF PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG AT THE VIENTIANE PEACE TALKS." AS WAS THE CASE WHEN HE LEFT SAM NEUA FOR VIENTIANE ON FEBRUARY 3 TO NEGOTIATE THE VIENTIANE AGREEMENT, PHOUMI WAS SEEN OFF BY LAO PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL KAYSONE, AS WELL AS BY LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT CHAIRMAN SOUPHANOUVONG. WE UNDERSTAND THAT PHOUMI WILL ARRIVE IN VIENTIANE APRIL 26 ON REGULAR AEROFLOT FLIGHT FROM HANOI.

B. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE, IN ITS REGULAR WEEKLY

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MEETING ON APRIL 25, AUTHORIZED ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT TO SEND AN OFFICIAL LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER REQUESTING THAT THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY CONVENE AS PRESCRIBED BY CONSTITUTION ON MAY 11. STANDING COMMITTEE DECIDED NOT TO PURSUE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION SINCE TIME SO SHORT UNTIL REGULAR SESSION DUE TO OPEN.

DEAN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENTI03179
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730456/aaaajcjk.tel
Line Count: 164
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 VIENTIANE 3154
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980209
Subject: LAO SITUATION REPORT - APRIL 25
TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, PINS, PINT, LA
To: CIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
EA
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BANGKOK
DOD
JEC PARIS
MULTIPLE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005